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ICC TO AWARD GRANTS FOR RAIL SAFETY EDUCATION MAY 1 DEADLINE

The Illinois Commerce Commission's Railroad Safety Section has issued a Request for Grant Proposals (RFGP) for local railroad safety education and enforcement programs.

The ICC recently received a grant from the Federal Railroad Administration to work with local communities and railroads in Illinois to implement a number of railroad safety education or enforcement programs. The ICC awarded nearly \$600,000 in 26 railroad safety grants to communities throughout Illinois in 2003.

Each year in Illinois, 50 to 60 people are killed and another 70 to 100 injured in highway-rail grade crossing collisions, or while trespassing on railroad property. Communities interested in partnering with the ICC on a rail safety education or enforcement program, may submit a proposal describing railroad safety concerns in the area, proposed education and/or enforcement activities, and the amount of the grant request.

The deadline to submit proposals is noon on May 1, 2006. Proposals selected for funding will be announced on or after May 15, 2006. The grants will be awarded for projects implemented between June 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

A Request for Grant Proposal Application form may be obtained on the ICC website at

<http://www.icc.illinois.gov/docs/rl/060324RFP.pdf>. The RFGP application materials must be used to submit a request for funding.

Proposals should be submitted to Steve Laffey in the Railroad Safety Section of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. For more information, please contact Steve Laffey at (217) 785-9026, or by email at slaffey@icc.illinois.gov.

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